

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY UNN

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY UNN

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY UNN

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY UNN

AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY UNN

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY UNN

S E C R E T SECTO 14018

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KN, KS, ASEAN, UN

SUBJECT: KOREAN RESOLUTIONS AND ASEAN

1. PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 30 MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY, SINGAPORE FOREIGN MINISTER RAJARATNAM AND PERMREP KOH MET WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB, AND EXPLORED POSSIBLE NEW ASEAN INITIATIVE REGARDING KOREAN RESOLUTIONS.

2. ACCORDING TO KOH, ASEAN COUNTRIES HAD DECIDED TO VOTE AGAINST NORTH KOREA IN THE PROCEDURAL QUESTION OF THE PRIORITY OF THE NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTION OVER THE FRIENDLY ONE. KOH SAID THAT THIS REPRESENTED A SHIFT IN THE ASEAN POSITION, WHICH WAS DESIGNED TO BUY TIME TO OFFER AN ASEAN ALTERNATIVE.

3. DEPENDING INITIALLY UPON THE PROCEDURAL VOTE, ASEAN WOULD TRY TO TALK WITH BOTH THE NORTH AND SOUTH KOREANS, AND EITHER OFFER AMENDMENTS TO BOTH THE FRIENDLY AND UNFRIENDLY RESOLUTIONS, OR ATTEMPT A
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SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION. IN AN ASIDE, KOH IMPLIED THAT

ASEAN (AND SINGAPORE IN PARTICULAR) WAS ATTEMPTING TO
BE HELPFUL AND AT THE SAME TIME AVOID THE CHARACTERIZATION
OF QUOTE LACKEYS OF THE AMERICANS UNQUOTE

4. ABIB STRESSED TO RAJARATNAM AND KOH THE IMPORTANCE
OF THE UNFRIENDLY RESOLUTION BEING DEFEATED, AND THE
FRIENDLY RESOLUTION BEING PASSED. THIS WAS A MATTER
OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO THE UNITED STATES, FOR
QUIBBLES OF INTERPRETATION ASIDE, THE UNFRIENDLY
RESOLUTION WAS AIMED DIRECTLY AT US. THE NORTH KOREANS HAD
STATED THIS, AND THEY SHOULD BE BELIEVED IN THE MATTER.
WE BELIEVE THEREFORE THAT ABSTENTIONS ARE NOT SUFFICIENT.
HABIB EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE DOUBT THAT NORTH KOREANS WOULD
AGREE TO SUBSTANTIVE AMENDMENTS WHICH WOULD FUNDAMENTALLY
ALTER THE NATURE AND THRUST OF THEIR RESOLUTION. WE COULD
NOT PREJUDGE ANY AMENDMENT TO THAT WE HAD NOT SEEN, BUT
IF AMENDMENTS WERE THOUGHT NECESSARY, THE FRENCH AMENDMENT
TO THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION LOOKED SATISFACTORY TO US.
DISCUSSION CONCLUDED WITH HABIB'S RESTATEMENT OF THE
IMPORTANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF THE NORTH KOREAN
RESOLUTION BEING DEFEATED AND THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION
BEING PASSED.
KISSINGER

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